

# THE WESTERN CLARION

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## THE PROLETARIAN CONFERENCE

Synopsis of the Proceedings of the Fourth Provincial Convention of the Socialist Party Held at Nelson, British Columbia on the 6th, 7th and 8th of October, 1906.

Proceedings of the British Columbia Provincial Convention of the Socialist Party of Canada, held in Miners' Union Hall, Nelson, Oct. 6, 1906.

**First Day.**  
Convention called to order at 2 a. m. by Provincial Secretary McKenzie. Comrade John McInnes of Phoenix elected temporary chairman and Comrade W. H. Moore of Fernie temporary secretary of the convention.

Comrades H. Siegfried (Revelstoke), E. Mills (Greenwood), and D. G. McKenzie appointed a committee on credentials.  
Comrades J. H. Hawthornthwaite, M. P. (Nanaimo), E. T. Kingsley (Vancouver), and Thomas Foulston (Boundary Falls), appointed a committee on order of business.

Convention adjourned for 15 minutes to allow committees to report.

On convening the Committee on Credentials reported finding the following delegates entitled to vote, with their duly attested proxies: Vancouver Local, No. 1, E. T. Kingsley, 3 votes; Nanaimo Local, No. 3, J. H. Hawthornthwaite, 1 vote; James Cartwright 1 vote; Nelson Local No. 4, A. W. Harrod 2 votes; Revelstoke Local No. 7, H. Siegfried 2 votes; Phoenix Local No. 8, J. McInnes 2 votes; Greenwood Local No. 9, E. Mills 2 votes; Michel Local No. 16, Geo. Whiting 2 votes; Fernie Local No. 17, W. H. Moore 3 votes; Rossland Local No. 25, A. F. Berry 2 votes; Boundary Falls Local No. 25, Thos Foulston 2 votes.

Report adopted as read.  
Comrade Harry Sibble given a seat and vote as delegate at large.

The Committee on Order of Business recommending order of business:

- 1st, Election of Permanent Officers for the Convention.
- 2nd, Address of Welcome by Com. Harrod.
- 3rd, Report of Provincial Secretary.
- 4th, Consideration of Party Constitution and Platform.
- 5th, Parliamentary Report.
- 6th, Resolutions.
- 7th, Party Work and Organization.
- 8th, Good of the Movement.
- 9th, Adjournment.

Report of Committee adopted as read. Comrades McInnes and Moore temporary officers of the Convention made permanent officers in their respective positions.

On behalf of Nelson Local, Comrade Harrod, in a brief address welcomed the delegates to Nelson.

A motion throwing open the meetings of the Convention to all workers and excluding representatives of the capitalist press, was carried.

The Provincial Secretary's statement of the Party finances during his term of office was received as follows:

General Fund.	
On hand, June 15th	\$ 42.55
Receipts to Oct 6th	126.25
Total	\$168.80
Expenditures	\$ 96.75
Balance on hand	\$119.80

Organizing Fund.	
On hand, June 15th	\$ 64.00
Receipts to Oct. 6th	153.30
Total	\$219.30
Expenditures	\$ 99.50
Balance on hand	\$119.80

Campaign Fund Receipts \$ 22.50

The secretary was instructed to prepare and publish in the Western Clarion, a supplementary report covering the work of the Provincial Executive Committee since the last Convention.

At noon the Convention adjourned till 1:30 p. m. Comrades Hawthornthwaite, Berry and McKenzie were appointed a committee on proposed amendments to the Constitution.

The following amendments to the Party Platform were adopted:

1. By striking out paragraph 2 of the platform and substituting the words:

"Labor produces all wealth and to the producers it should belong. The present economic system is based upon capitalist ownership of the means of production, consequently all the products of labor belong to the capitalist class. The capitalist is therefore master, the worker a slave."

By striking out of paragraph 3, line 1, the words "capitalists remain" and substituting the words "capitalist class remains."

3. By inserting after the word "system" paragraph 5 line 4, the words, "under which is cloaked the robbery of the working class at the point of production."

A proposed amendment to the platform advocating the abolition of hereditary titles was lost.

An evening session was determined upon and the Convention adjourned till 7:00 p. m.

On reconvening the parliamentary report from Comrade Hawthornthwaite, dealing with his own and Comrade Williams' work in the Provincial Legislature, was received and a motion carried unanimously expressing full confidence in Comrades Hawthornthwaite and Williams, and

endorsing their actions in the House and their efforts on behalf of the working class.

The Convention then adjourned at 10 p. m., to meet again at 10 a. m., Oct. 7th.

**Second Day.**  
Under the head of Resolutions the proposed Labor Party was thoroughly discussed and Comrades Berry, Hawthornthwaite and Kingsley were appointed a committee to draft a resolution dealing with the arrest and imprisonment of Comrades Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone.

The Convention adjourned at 12:30 p. m., to meet again at 2 p. m.

On reconvening the committee on the proposed Labor Party submitted the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress at its recent session in Victoria took steps to establish a Labor Party in the Dominion of Canada, and

Whereas, no political party can correctly express the labor movement unless it stands for the abolition of capitalist exploitation, and the wage system under which it is effected, and

Whereas, there is nothing in the published account of the proceedings of the Trades and Labor Congress in reference to the setting up of this proposed labor party to show that it had any such purpose in view; therefore be it

Resolved, that we condemn the setting up of any and all such "labor parties" as calculated to deceive, confuse and mislead the workers into a line of action that not only cannot relieve them from the stress of capitalist exploitation, but must inevitably tend to a prolongation of their present miseries, and their further degradation and, be it further

Resolved, that we warn all workmen to be extremely cautious in giving support to such schemes lest they unwittingly be induced to follow a line of action that because of its false premises and obscure conclusions can but lead to disappointment and final disaster.

The following resolution submitted by Michel Local, No. 16, was lost:

"Resolved that, in the opinion of this Convention, no Socialist should hold an official position in any Labor Union."

The committee on the arrest and imprisonment of comrades Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone submitted the following resolution, introduced by Comrade J. H. Hawthornthwaite, member of the Provincial Legislature for Nanaimo, B. C., and seconded by Comrade E. T. Kingsley, editor of the Western Clarion:

WHEREAS, Charles Moyer, William D. Haywood and Geo. Pettibone, officers and members of the Western Federation of Miners, have been seized by the ruffianly retainers of the Mine-Owners of Colorado and Idaho; and

Whereas, such seizure and incarceration has been effected upon flimsy, trumped up charges of murder, based upon evidence undoubtedly sweated from moral perverts and degenerates, and

Whereas, the depriving of these men of their liberty without due process or warrant of law, and in violation even of common decency, has afforded an excellent illustration of the arbitrary use of power by the present ruling class and its utter contempt for the workers and their alleged rights, therefore be it

Resolved, that this Convention of the Socialist Party of Canada expresses its unshaken confidence in the innocence of Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone and its utter contempt for the cowardly ruling class and its conscienceless ruffians who are responsible for their persecution; and be it further

Resolved, that in the opinion of this body, the acts of these ruffians furnish incontrovertible proof of the loyalty and fidelity of the imprisoned men to the labor movement of which they are a part and whose servants they are, and be it further

Resolved, that on behalf of the Socialists of Canada we hereby extend fraternal greetings to our imprisoned comrades and their fellow members of the Western Federation of Miners, and pledge ourselves to work hand in hand with them for the speedy ending of a system that makes possible the perpetration of these infamies upon members of our class.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The following resolution introduced by Comrade Mills, was carried unanimously:

Resolved, that this Convention request the Executive Committee to endeavor to organize Socialist locals in every constituency of the Province with the purpose in view of running a candidate in each constituency at the next election.

The Convention adjourned to meet at 10 a. m., Oct. 8.

**Third Day.**  
Convention called to order at 10 a. m., by Comrade McInnes.

The following telegram from Comrade Coxon, on behalf of Winnipeg Local was read.

"To the Socialist Convention, Nelson, B. C., greetings. We stand pat on Revolutionary Platform."

Secretary Moore was instructed to send a suitable reply.

Comrades Frank Phillips of Nelson and W. Davidson, M. P. P., of Slocan, were given a seat and voice in the Convention.

The matter of a Party Press was discussed by the Convention as a Committee of the whole. The Committee rose at 12:30 p. m., and the Convention adjourned till 1:30 p. m.

On reconvening the Committee on the Crow's Nest strike submitted the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, another of those industrial disturbances that are the inevitable result of the irrepressible conflict of interest between the capitalist class and the workers, has broken out at the mines of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal company, resulting in the closing of the mines and leaving a large number of workmen without means of subsistence for themselves and families; and

Whereas, owing to the complicated nature of modern industry the effect of this shutdown, if long continued, will disastrously effect thousands of workmen employed in other lines of production; and

Whereas, these industrial disturbances and the disastrous effects following in their wake are but the logical and inevitable consequences of the present system of property in the means of wealth production, therefore be it

Resolved, that we extend our sympathy to the striking miners of the Crow's Nest Pass in their efforts to withstand the aggressions of the Coal Company, and urge upon them to use every legitimate means to prevent any further encroachments upon their

rights and privileges as workmen, and be it further

Resolved, that we urge upon them the necessity of taking immediate and decisive steps towards ending the rule of capital and its brutal exploitation of labor, by lining up with the revolutionary working class movement of the world for the purpose of assuming the control of government and the mastery of industry, thus bringing to an end the present era of exploitation, class brutality, and industrial warfare.

The Convention referred back to the fourth Order of Business. The report of the committee on amendments to the Constitution was submitted, discussed clause by clause, amended and adopted as amended.

The constitution as revised and amended was unanimously endorsed and the Provincial Executive Committee was empowered to correct clerical or other errors.

Delegates were instructed to make statements to their respective locals of their hotel and transportation expenses. This statement to be forwarded without delay to the Provincial Secretary, together with a report of the numbers of members in good standing on Oct. 1st.

On motion of Comrade Foulston of Boundary Falls, seconded by Comrade Seigfried of Revelstoke, Vancouver was unanimously chosen as the seat of the Provincial Executive Committee until the next Convention is held.

Comrade Moore of Fernie, was instructed to stop off at Moyie on his way home to assist in organizing a Local at that point, and to send bill of expense incurred to the Provincial Executive Committee.

It was resolved that the Convention call upon all Locals to do their utmost towards organizing new locals, whether in their own or adjoining districts.

After stirring addresses by a number of comrades, the Convention adjourned sine die.

## IN THE DOMAIN OF KING JAMIE

How the Demon of Capital Mercilessly Fries the Fat out of its Victims in Dunsmuir's Modern Inferno at Extension. The Coal Pit a Veritable Torture Chamber.

Last week I dealt with the general conditions, or, rather, with the several and separate influences which in combination go to determine the conditions of work at Dunsmuir's Extension mines. This week I propose to finish off this series of letters by an account of the actual and disciplinary facts of work which the miner rubs up against in his dark and dangerous struggle for a living. And these same daily conditions I will show to be often unjust, not unselected illegal, and nearly always harsh, cruel and oppressive.

After the strike Dunsmuir found it desirable to make some changes among the chief officers of the mine. To the great despot's infinite astonishment he discovered in his bosses a bright and burning spark of manhood and independence. They even dared to refuse to do the tyrant's dirty work by going to Cumberland during the strike. More than that, they had (so the imperious one discovered) abused their offices by dealing fairly and even generously by the men under them. Here was rank treason and sedition against every tradition of the Dunsmuir regime as well as a foolish waste of sympathy and a wanton extravagance of generosity in dealing with the employees of the mine. It was inconceivably crushed out. The erring bosses were removed and others found to take their places. These latter were men who had not refused to go up to Union. Two of them were (and are) crass illiterates, with not an instinct of manhood left in them. Their conception of the dignity of their office finds expression in a curish snarl at the reasonable demands of the men and a cheap sneer at any proper request preferred to them. Their only idea of their duty to their employer is to grind the last cent out of the men in order to add to the millions of the owner. Of common courtesy and the ordinary decencies of human relationship they are as empty as the desert.

The third boss gets a good name among his men; but naturally his just instincts are checked just as his powers are curbed by the example of his two colleagues. Of course, these latter recognise no other system than that described last week, and how they have worked it to the detriment of the men generally I am now going to tell.

Prices have been cut and wages fallen all round. The seam of coal at Extension is eminently an easy one to work, and therefore vastly profitable to the great Mogul who claims possession of it. But it is irregular and overlaid with dirt of varying thickness. The miner in getting out the coal has perforce also to take out the dirt. Now for the coal the digger is paid, or alleged to be paid, at the rate of 75 cents a ton. The dirt he has to stow away in getting out the coal is included in this price. But before the strikes and under the traitorous bosses alluded to, if the amount of dirt he had to handle was two feet thick he was paid say two

dollars a yard, that is, for every yard he drove his place he received two dollars in addition to his tonnage. If he had dirt which exceeded two feet in thickness he received more proportionately in "yardage." At the present time he may be handling four feet of dirt, but if he is not a sucker, he counts himself the luckiest man, not in the province but in the Dominion, if he gets a cent more than his 75 cents a ton.

Again, there are working places driven for purposes of ventilation called cross-cuts. For these he was paid at the rate of 75 cents a ton and three dollars a yard. Now he is a lucky man if he gets two dollars a yard, and many men get nothing. More than that, it used to be the custom (and still is under the one boss) for the men working the stalls to get the cross-cuts turned out of these stalls. Nowadays two of the bosses reserve the cross-cuts for their fiddlers and pipers, blowhorns and coddlers, and the man in the stall has to continue his weary swing of the shovel without recompense. That it is a weary swing even the uninitiated will understand when I say that heaps of diggers in loading five tons of coal have to throw more than that weight of dirt and extremely heavy rock in many cases and in every case much heavier than coal—back out of the way to do so. It is needless to detail further instances of reductions in wages, every one of them serious. But timbering, so important in its bearing on the safety of life and limb, figures on the list, and now the men are confronted with a system of individual contract letting which will still further increase the profits of the owner at the expense of the wages of the workman. The gross result of it all is that wages have fallen at the least as much as a dollar a day in these last two years. True it is some men are making their five dollars a day and over. But, as I have so often had to say, these are the scabs and the leaders of the chorus of suckers, and to maintain them at this rate of wages the majority of the men are earning their bare three dollars and some as low as their two dollars. Truly a munificent rate of pay for men who have to incur deadly perils and subsist in a town where the cost of living is based on a dental scale of five dollars.

I have said the diggers are paid at the rate of 75 cents a ton. So it appears on the company's statement. The truth it is a baseless fiction. The cars used in the mines have a cubic capacity of about 33 feet. Now a box of a capacity of 40 cubic feet, loaded level full with loose coal, holds one ton. But this estimate is obtained from a coal of a light specific gravity. The coal at the Extension mines is of an extremely heavy nature. But even if we take this reckoning, an Extension car, level full, should contain over 16 cwt. of coal. As things are, however, if the box is packed with coal as high as twelve inches above its own height, the dig-

## LABOR-POWER AS A COMMODITY

Extract From a Lecture on the "Economics of Labor" Delivered by H. Quelch to the Economic Club of the Polytechnic Institute London, England, Some Years Since.

Labor is a commodity, and like other commodities, it exchanges in the market at its cost of production in human labor. That is, the labor-force of the laborer is sold in the free and open labor market, at what it costs to produce that labor force. We have no slavery here. "Britons never will be slaves!" The free British workman is not sold, neither does he sell himself. He brings into the market his commodity—the only thing of any value which he possesses—his power to labor, the labor-force which is embodied in his person. There is nothing in the world to compel him to sell this labor-force—but sheer necessity. He can keep it if he likes—and starve. But "il faut vivre," and though others as well as Talleyrand may not see the necessity, it is this very necessity to live which makes it imperative on the otherwise perpetually laborer to sell his only valuable possession—his one ewe lamb—his labor. But he has no monopoly. There are other laborers in the market, equally ready, equally anxious, to sell the same commodity, with the result that this, like all other commodities offered under similar conditions, generally exchanges at its cost of production in human labor. So much food, clothing and shelter, all produced by labor, is necessary for the production and maintenance of the laborer; and this forms the basis of the exchange value of his labor-force. Stated in other terms the basis of wages is the cost of subsistence of the laborer. This is called the "iron law of wages" with reference to which I shall have something to say later. At present we are considering the source of surplus-value. The laborer sells his labor then, on the average, as all commodities are sold, at its normal exchange value—its cost of production. But the amount of wealth which the laborer produces in the time for which he produces in the time for which he has sold his labor-force, is out of all proportion to what it costs to produce and maintain his labor-force for that time. This, the difference between what he produces and his own cost of production, is surplus value, and is taken deduction, is surplus-value, and is taken and divided up by the capitalist into rent, interest, profit. This surplus-value then, this profit, is so much robbery effected by taking advantage of the necessity of the proletarian—the naked, propertyless laborer. But, you say, the laborer is perfectly free, he made his own bargain, it was a free and open contract, how can it be described as robbery? I do not want to use unnecessarily harsh terms, and remember, I am not attacking individuals, but attempting to describe the working of the actual economic system. Your political economists talk of freedom of contract; but there can be no freedom of contract between the man who must sell or die—who is forced by sheer necessity to like Esau, sell his birthright for a mess of pottage, so to speak, and the man to whom it is a matter of indifference whether he buys or not. The laborer is forced by necessity to sell, and as a consequence gets, on the average, but a subsistence in return. All over and above the cost of subsistence belongs to his exploiters—he has what he bargained for, his wages. What right has he to more? In the result there is, generally speaking, no relation between the value of a man's work, between the value of what he produces and what he receives. What he receives is governed, not by what he produces, but by what he must have to live to go on working. It is sometimes urged as an objection to this that wages vary in different countries. Precisely, and this, which at first sight appears to disprove, really goes to prove the truth of the theory I am propounding. Although it is sometimes sought to show that the labor of some men is vastly more productive than that of others, it is fair to assume, and facts and experience go to prove, that there is nowhere such a difference in the productivity of labor as would account for the extraordinary difference in wages. The British workman is doubtless the finest fellow on the face of the earth, as his pastors and masters tell him when they want to keep him contented; but he cannot do twelve times as much work as a Chinaman. Yet the latter will work for fourpence a day while the former wants four shillings. The Chinaman gets fourpence a day because he has learned to live on fourpence a day—if capitalism continues—he will get but fourpence a day, although he may do just as much work as he does today. There is, of course, a constant effort on the part of workmen to force wages above it; but at the same time, as with all other commodities, competition is constantly operating to force down the price of labor—wages—to its normal level.

not by the productivity of labor, but by its cost of production (which in my humble judgment is the central fact in the economics of labor) you see how useless are many of the proposals of your social reformers, and how fallacious are many of the teachings of your political economists.

Remember that the operation of this law is imperative and inexorable as long as present conditions obtain. It is no use appealing to the justice of the capitalist. He, as capitalist, is in duty bound to buy labor, as well as other commodities, as cheaply as possible. If he is so noble minded so, quixotic, as to pay an artificial price for labor, the economic conditions, which, like the Almighty, are no respecters of persons, have no mercy on him, but relentlessly thrust him on one side to make room for another less scrupulous than himself.

To preach temperance and thrift to the workers may be very well. From the point of view of abstract morality the practise of temperance and thrift and industry may be a good thing, but economically considered the practise of thrift and abstinence and industry not only does not advantage the worker, but is frequently pernicious. The practise of thrift and abstinence simply means for the workers reducing their consumption and ultimately reducing their standard of comfort—their cost of living and consequently their wages. To be industrious does not mean for the worker increased wealth and increased comfort, but increased production of surplus-value for the capitalist class, which surplus-value is being piled up around him in masses of overproduction which do not belong to him, which he man not consume, but which frequently condemn him to involuntary idleness, and, by intensifying the competition in the labor market, help to force down wages.

Recognizing the inexorable working of these economic laws you will see how fallacious are the theories of political economists as to individual liberty, freedom of contract between the propertyless proletarian—the laborer with nothing but his labor to sell, and therefore compelled to sell his labor—and the capitalist, with whom it is a matter of indifference whether he buys the labor of this particular individual or of some other?

What is the value of individual liberty of the laborer who, being thus compelled to sell his labor, must of necessity sell it for a bare subsistence without regard to its productivity? Of what value is free trade when it only tends to cheapen commodities, and labor as well as other commodities? when by reducing the cost of production of labor it reduces its value in exchange? when by reducing the price of food it also reduces the wages of labor? Yet your propertyless proletarian is a sine qua non of capitalism. Capital, as you have seen, ceases to be capital if it ceases to produce profit. This profit is surplus-value—unpaid labor—the result of the exploitation of the proletarian. This exploitation is only possible with your free, naked laborer. If he were not "free" he could not sell his labor force, and if he were not naked of possessions he would not sell it for a bare subsistence. Thus the proletarian is necessary to capitalism and thus capitalism produces the proletarian which is necessary for its existence. Thus capital grows by what it feeds on, and thus labor becomes poorer the more it abstains and the more it saves.

You will thus see that not only is the poverty of the workers essential to capitalism but that capitalism maintains and intensifies this poverty so that all the well intentioned efforts of social reformers to mitigate its evils merely furnish capitalism with additional weapons. Temperance, thrift, industry only serve to make labor an easier or more valuable prey to capital. If they reduce the cost of living in any particular they but reduce the cost of labor to the capitalist. Take education again. There is a growing cry of technical education, in order, it is said, to enable us to compete with foreign countries. What does this mean save that in those countries with which we are called upon to compete education itself is being exploited, that the monolith is being broken down by the spread of education and that skilled labor is now on the same level as unskilled.

A recognition of these facts not only demonstrates the fallacy of many so-called reforms, but points the direction in which we should proceed in order to eliminate the evils arising from present conditions. We see that the mere cheapening of the cost of living only tends to reduce wages and thus cannot advantage the worker. We must, therefore, aim at raising the standard of life rather than cheapening the cost of subsistence. We must see that public money is well spent rather than that taxes are reduced, and that the workers are provided with better and healthier

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Saturday, October 20, 1906.

## THE STRIKE AT FERNIE.

As a result of some trouble arising between the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company and its employees, the mines and coke ovens of the company at Coal Creek, Fernie, and Michel are tied up by a strike. As all of the coke used in the smelting industry in the Boundary and adjacent districts, comes from the Crow's Nest region, the effects of the strike are immediately felt by the smelting and metalliferous mining interests of the Province. Already some of the smelters have been compelled to close some of their furnaces, and, should the strike be long continued, will be forced to suspend operations entirely. Unable to get their ores smelted, the mine operators will likewise be compelled to suspend operations. By this process thousands of workmen outside of those implicated in the original trouble will be forced into idleness. With their earning power thus cut off they will be compelled to curtail their expenditures to the lowest notch, and the far-reaching effects of the Fernie strike will be passed on through them to a multitude of other work-people who may perchance never hear of the trouble between the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company and its employees and would probably not be interested in it if they did.

Without going into the immediate cause of the strike at Fernie, it were well to point out the extreme danger which threatens human society under the present capitalist control of the means of production. Upon the uninterrupted operations of the machinery of wealth production depends the very life of human kind. So complicated and sensitive has become the process of production, because of the advent of the powerful mechanical agencies by means of which it is carried on, that the evil effects of its interruption at any given point or in any part of the process, are quickly spread throughout the length and breadth of the land, and if the interruption be serious and long continued, suffering and misery will become widespread and far-reaching.

The production and distribution of wealth is today essentially a social process. Into this process is poured the energy, the life force, the labor-power of every person who is forced to depend upon his own labor for an existence. The very fact that this multitude of workers are compelled to work shoulder to shoulder, and side by side, each doing his little part in the great process of production, stamps that process as essentially a social or collective affair. That it is frequently interrupted by outbreaks such as the one at Fernie, that spread misery and destitution in their wake, is due to the fact that the true social function of modern production is hampered in its expression by the present class control of the means whereby it is carried on. While production itself, is each day assuming a more completely social character, the control of industry and the appropriation of the product remains anti-social. This control and appropriation remains in the hands of a class, while the highest and best interests of the workers demand that it should rest in the hands of society as a whole. By every outbreak and interruption such as the one at Fernie, the modern process of wealth production expresses itself as in rebellion against the capitalist control of production and consequent appropriation of the product. These outbreaks will occur with ever greater frequency and vio-

lence until such readjustment in the control of industry as will give free play not only to the social character of production itself, but to the social distribution of the product and its application to the satisfaction of common needs and the promotion of the common welfare.

With the control of industry in the hands of capital, human society is continually confronted with the danger of widespread disaster resulting from an extended and serious interruption of production. The relations existing between capitalists and workmen are of necessity, of such a nature as to render an explosion possible at any moment. Some trifling difference, inconsequential in itself, may so magnify itself in the eyes of employer and employee as to readily become the spark that fires the train leading to an industrial explosion that may paralyze the industry of a continent and spread ruin and destitution in its wake. In sheer self-defence, in obedience to the instinct of self-preservation, human society will, sooner or later, be forced to assume control of its means of production in order to insure itself against the devastation and disaster that is an ever present danger under capitalist regime.

It is hoped the workmen rendered idle because of this Fernie strike may learn the lesson well during their period of idleness, so that they may know what course to steer in the future, to the end that the present dangerous situation may be speedily abolished by human society assuming mastery of its means of existence, and thus placing itself in a position to safeguard the lives of the individuals composing it. The workers may well learn the lesson for it devolves upon the working class to bring about this "consummation devoutly to be wished."

Let us speedily conquer the reins of power and strike down the present class dominations of industry and appropriation of its products, and placing such domination and appropriation in the hands of the workingclass where it ought to belong. By so doing human society may escape the dangers which now threaten, and industrial war be succeeded by industrial peace.

## MURDER WILL OUT.

From time to time the smug bourgeois world has been horrified by the accounts of awful crimes perpetrated by organized labor in its efforts to withstand the encroachments of capital. Capitalist sheets galore are continually proclaiming the organizations of labor as mere bands of ruffians gathered for the purpose of subverting "law and order" and indulging to the utmost their vicious propensities by indiscriminate outrage, rapine and murder.

It is no doubt true that numbers of organized labor have, upon occasions, resorted to questionable means in order to carry a point. But that organized labor has at any time countenanced, or taken part in, acts of ruffianly lawlessness, violence, pillage, rapine and murder, has not yet been proven to any reasonable person's satisfaction. In times of excitement due to strikes and similar occurrences botheaded men have often plunged, or been led into the commission of overt acts. To whatever extent this may have been carried, however, it has been entirely overshadowed by the acts of the Colorado mine owners in connection with the labor troubles in that state of recent years.

Every one is familiar with the attempt to railroad the officers of the Western Federation of Miners to the gallows, and the practical collapse of the conspiracy. No more coarse and awkward attempt to murder innocent men, in order to conserve the interests of a ruling class, was ever made by cheap and conscienceless ruffians than that made by the Colorado and Idaho authorities and their hired assassins. The light already thrown upon the doings of these contemptible ruffians and would-be murderers, by Adams' repudiation of his former "confession," which he avers was wrung from him by threats, has recently been intensified by an affidavit made by one, Claude C. Baldwin, who was the private orderly in constant attendance upon that spectacular ruffian (Adjutant General Sherman Bell, during the Colorado troubles of a couple of years ago.

Baldwin avers that Orchard, the miserable cur upon whose alleged "confession" the arrest of Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone was made, was in the employ of the Cripple Creek Mine Operators' Association, during the days of the aforesaid troubles, and was making regular reports to the military forces under "General Bell's" command. Baldwin swears that he was present at a certain time and heard Orchard make his report. According to Baldwin the weakening of the cable in Stratton Independence

mine, which caused it to break on January 20th, 1904, resulting in the killing of fifteen men, was deliberately planned at a meeting of mine owners. Baldwin was present at this meeting. The purpose of the act was to throw discredit upon the Western Federation of Miners, and thus assist in breaking the strike. The killing of fifteen men was merely incidental to the carrying out of the scheme and did not in the least disturb these murderers.

Baldwin further asserts that the explosion in the Vindicator mine was likewise arranged by the mine owners and their agents, Beek and McCormack, two of the conspirators were killed in this explosion, through going down in the cage unconsciously of the fact that their fellow-conspirators had everything arranged for the event.

The explosion at the Independence depot was arranged at a meeting held in the Brown Palace Hotel, in Denver. The participants in this meeting were attorney Crump, A. Holman, Copeland, Conlton, Moore, Franklin and Baldwin were present. Although the intention was to "pull off" the explosion just after the train left the depot, by some hitch in the proceedings, it was brought on just as the train was pulling in and terrible loss of life ensued. The purpose of the plot was to still further discredit the Western Federation of Miners and aid the authorities in breaking the strike.

Inducements were offered to get Baldwin to murder Frank J. Hanks, attorney for the Federation. This he refused to do but went to the attorney's office and placed him under arrest.

The inside history of numerous other incidents of those days are set forth in Baldwin's affidavit, all going to show the unbridled ferocity and brutality of a ruling class that is aroused the moment it scents danger to its right to rule and rob.

Every workman should be able to draw a useful lesson from these exposures of ruling class methods. It should teach him to view with suspicion every act of military officers, public officials, police detectives, and other tools of capitalist power and repression. He should awaken to the fact that all of these are arrayed against him and his class, and will resort to every means, no matter how foul, to protect and defend the profit hungry interests that lie behind them and whose despicable tools and henchmen they are.

Let the workers of Colorado do their duty on November 6th, by electing and seating William D. Haywood as governor of the state, and the way is then opened for a much needed probing into the doings of these bloodthirsty mine owners and their ruffianly retainers, for the purpose of dealing out to them a generous instalment of what is coming to them.

Capital is the term applied to the means of wealth production when used for the purpose of exploiting labor. When the owner of means of wealth production operates them solely by his own labor, such means of production do not function as capital. The owner, in this case is not a capitalist.

The "Weekly Sun" in speaking of the industry and commerce of the Dominion has discovered that our present position, despite existing prosperity, is a precarious one, and uncertainty must exist so long as the foundation of our whole industrial fabric depends for its security upon the continuance of commercial activity in one country. Our position is precarious because "our whole industrial fabric depends for its security upon the production of profit." Our markets in which we "dispose of the surplus values wrung from wage-slaves are at any time liable to become lost to us and "our" industrial fabric come tumbling about our ears. Precarious? most decidedly so and getting worse each day. Some time the workers will get enough sense in their thick heads to assume control of "our" industrial fabric and convert it to its proper use of satisfying human needs instead of producing profits for a useless class.

The position of the workers at least, will then become less precarious.

"Teddy" Roosevelt has made another speech, this time at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. As usual it is a long drawn-out string of platitudes of little meaning but much sound. It is now "Kaiser Bill's" turn to do the spectacular.

The rotten conditions existing around the meat-packing industry of Chicago and other places are now forgotten. The American sovereign now flops his lips once more over the savory "potted ham" made from diseased cow udders, with his old time gusto.

## THE CURTAIN FALLS.

With the occupation of Cuba by the United States forces, the farce of Cuban independence is brought to a close. "Cuba Libre" can now be shelved and the inhabitants of the island settle down to the process of grinding their lives into profits for the huge American commerce interests whose vassals they are. If they do not quietly settle down to the process they will be forced down by the uniformed and armed ruffians known as soldiers who will be poured into the island in numbers sufficient to do the job.

That the American occupation of Cuba has been directed from the office of the commercial pirates who have fastened their clutches upon the island goes without saying. It has been openly stated by influential journals that \$8,000,000 was subscribed by a syndicate of these pirates to support the late insurrection and thus afford an excuse for intervention by the United States upon the plea that American interests were endangered.

It is openly proclaimed by the more outspoken conspirators, Senator Beveridge for instance, that the present United States occupation will be permanent. Cuba will be annexed. Incorporated into the great republic, the blood of the Cuban workers will be sucked to the last drop by the capitalist vampires that hold the vast industries of the nations in their grasp.

It is now up to the Cuban workmen to become a part of the proletarian army of emancipation, not for the purpose of securing Cuban independence, but for the purpose of breaking the chains that bind the working class to the chariot wheels of capitalist exploitation in every land under the sun. By being forced into the vortex of American capitalism the Cuban working man will be compelled to take part in the struggle of the proletariat for freedom from wage-bondage. As they become awakened to the task in hand they will not regret the ringing down of the curtain upon the farce of Cuban independence. They will hail the day when it shall be wrung down upon the tragedy of capitalist rule, pillage, rapine and murder.

True, the political movement of labor is but the expression of its economic organization, that is its organization in wealth production. This organization is effected by "the very mechanism of the process of production itself." Our ideological and utopian friends have slipped a cog in their reckonings, and are trying to build up an economic organization of labor, when the only such organization possible is even now being perfected and completed under their noses. Blind? No, just nutty, that's all.

The concentration of industry is going steadily forward down in the Maritime Provinces of the Dominion. The most notable merger effected last month was that of the Baptists, Free Baptists, and United Baptists. It is alleged the merger was not formed for the purpose of raising the price of salvation to the consumer, but to reduce the cost of its production by eliminating the waste incident to the operation of small factories in competition with each other. It is expected that one result of this consolidation will be the production of goods of a better grade and more uniform quality.

## ALWAYS THE SAME.

The ruling class of any given country on earth is the exact counterpart of that of all other countries. It is possessed of the same vicious traits and reactionary instincts whether the country in question be a shoddy and vulgar republic or a shopworn and repulsive monarchy. A ruling class never yet existed that would not resort to the vilest and most despicable means to prolong its rule and maintain its stranglehold upon the throats of its victims. The history of civilization is one long drawn out story of the martyrdom of the bravest and noblest and best of human kind, and every institution that has been fostered by a ruling class has aided and abetted that martyrdom. And the end is not yet. In every land under the sun the ruling class displays the same vicious tendencies, brutal characteristics and utter lack of human qualities that have been the distinguishing traits of ruling classes since the shackles were first riveted upon the limbs of slaves. The martyrdom still continues. He who breaks away from the ignorance and superstition of the past, the very bulwark of class rule and its horrors, and dares to lift his voice, and use his talents to point out to his fellows the pathway leading to a higher civilization, takes his life in his hands, lucky indeed if he escapes the fang and claw of ruling class ferocity.

While the ruling class of the United States is busily engaged in endeavoring to crush the aspirations of its people for a greater freedom by im-

prisoning those who dare to give voice to those aspirations, or visiting upon them all the contemptible persecutions that ruling class ingenuity can devise, the following account of similar doings in Spain affords evidence to prove the kinship existing between the ruling classes of these two countries although the one is spoken of as the most advanced republic and the other, one of the most reactionary monarchies on earth. To know that similar acts of ruling class brutality are occurring at the same time in these two countries is to strip the sham, hypocrisy and pretense off both the monarchical and republican form of government and disclose the brutal and ferocious ruling class whose mask they are.

This account of Spanish ruling class ferocity, so closely akin to that displayed by the ruling class of the United States towards our comrades imprisoned in Idaho was contributed to the columns of London "Justice" by Guy Bowman.

## Another Dreyfus Case.

No doubt Socialists have been feeling keen interest in and indignation at the arrest of Ferrer, at Madrid, in connection with the recent attempt on the King of Spain. It may be well to recall the circumstances of the affair now that the trial is about to take place.

Francisco Ferrer Guardia is a distinguished Spanish educationist, who for some time lived in Paris, and acted as secretary to a French Minister of State. Here he met a wealthy lady, who shared his ideals; she left him a considerable fortune, with which he conceived the noble idea of founding and endowing what is known as the "Modern School," at Barcelona, in 1901, since when he has opened 37 similar schools, both in Barcelona and in other places.

Ferrer's educational schemes were not interfered with, and his schools prospered until the eventful day, May 31, on which Alfonso XIII. drove through Madrid, after his marriage with an English woman, who had abjured the religion of her country to join him in ruling a nation of monk-ridden starvelings.

As we all remember, a bomb was thrown at the pair, which failed in its purpose, and arrests immediately followed, beginning with that of an English journalist named Hamilton, a perfectly innocent man.

The story of Morral, the real culprit, is well known; but the zeal of the reactionary magistracy was not contented, and an opportunity for crushing so strong and ardent a progressive as Ferrer could not be missed. A pretext was found in the circumstances that Morral had acted as librarian in the Barcelona School, and, with absolutely no other evidence, Ferrer was arrested as a fellow conspirator. This reminds me of what happened in Paris exactly twelve months before. Alfonso was in Paris, paying a State visit to a secular Republic, of which he and his Ministers disapprove. There, also, a bomb was thrown at him, and, as the French police could not find the thrower, they did just the same thing as their Spanish colleagues are copying from them today—they arrested and imprisoned Charles Malato, a brilliant journalist and propagandist, who is no more capable of throwing a bomb than Prince Kropotkin. Fortunately, public opinion in France is becoming so conscious and so strong that the magistracy there cannot do just as they like, and after having detained Malato for exactly six months, they had to acquit and release him.

The "Escuelas Modernas," which have been given a very appropriate name, constitute an ideal institution for parents who desire to give their children a sound secular education, free from clerical fanaticism, and leading to other ideals than those kept in view by the infamous herd of Spanish and foreign monks, by which unfortunate Spain is kept in bonds, and unable to evolve towards modern institutions.

Ferrer's schools are provided with extensive libraries; and elementary text-books in science and other subjects have been translated from the best foreign writers. Of late years the schools have become exceedingly popular, and were developing in proportions alarming to the clerical domination which weighs so heavily on Spain. In this fact is to be found the reason for the arbitrary and completely unjustifiable arrest and imprisonment of Ferrer.

All these schools are now closed; libraries, museums, the funds of the institute, all are seized. The pupils have been sent back to their parents, and the masters, who were all distinguished pedagogues, have been dispersed. Imagine such an action in a country where it is notorious that 70 per cent. of the population are illiterate.

The Spanish Government, the tool of the fanatical gang of monks and Jesuits, arrested Ferrer on the ground of "moral complicity," which is no ground at all, seeing that people of talent and ardent convictions are placed at the head of every forward movement, and are brought into touch with men of all shades of opinion.

Moreover, in order to satisfy the rancour of a fanatic and almighty priesthood, it has not hesitated to commit a new outrage upon the individual liberty of an illustrious citizen, and has failed once more to perform the first duty of a civilized nation—namely, to promote the education of the people.

Ferrer was imprisoned in June, and was to be tried by court-martial—a form of trial which presupposes guilt—but the indignation and the outcry in the Spanish and French Republican press has secured him a trial by jury in a civil court. It cannot, however, be assumed that justice is thereby assured, for jury-packing is understood as thoroughly in Spain as it is in Ireland.

The trial begins this week only, and the "Heraldo de Madrid" tells

## Union Directory

When They Meet: Where They Meet.

Every Labor Union in the province is listed to place a card under this head. \$1.00 per month. Secretaries please note.

Phoenix Miners' Union, No. A. W. F. M. Meets every Saturday evening at 7.30 o'clock in Miners' hall, V. Ingram, president; W. A. Pickard, secretary.

J. Edward Bird, A. O. Brydon-Jack, Geo. E. McCrossan.

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## Socialist Directory

Every Local of the Socialist Party of Canada should run a card under this head. \$1.00 per month. Secretaries please note.

British Columbia Provincial Executive Committee, Socialist Party of Canada. Meets every alternate Tuesday. D. G. McKenzie, Secretary, Box 836, Vancouver, B. C.

Dominion Executive Committee, Socialist Party of Canada. Meets every alternate Tuesday. J. G. Morgan, Secretary, 551 Bernard Street, Vancouver, B. C.

Local Vancouver, No. 1, S. P. of Canada. Business meetings every Monday evening at headquarters, Ingleside Block, 213 Cambie Street, (room 1, second floor). Educational meetings every Sunday at 1 p. m. in Sullivan Hall, Cordova Street. Frederic Ferry, Secretary, Box 836, Vancouver, B. C.

Local Toronto, S. P. of C.—Meets second and fourth Tuesdays. Socialist Headquarters, 185 1/2 Queen Street West. F. Dale, Secretary, 41 Henry Street. Jewish Branch meets every Sunday night, same hall.

Local Winnipeg, S. P. of C., meets every first and third Sunday in the Voice office building, 213 Rupert ave., at 10:30 a. m. J. Coxon, Secretary, 226 Princess Street, Winnipeg, Man.

Local Nelson, S. P. of C.—Meets every Friday evening at 8 p. m. in Miners' Union Hall, Nelson B. C. A. W. Harrod, Organizer.

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us the incredible story that the Public Prosecutor asks for the sentence of death to be passed on Ferrer and yet no serious charge can be brought against him! There is no circumstantial evidence, the principal point inferred being that he is an Anarchist, which is false, and that he is "morally" responsible for the Madrid outrage. Everybody knows, and the magistrates themselves are aware of the fact, that outrages of that kind are acts committed by isolated individuals who involve nobody but themselves. It is high time a serious check were put on the doings of those "Judges" of all countries.

One can only be astounded at the audacity of the infamous demand of the clericalist reactionaries, which can have but one result—the acquittal of the accused—if the Assize Court of Madrid cares for its honor at all.

I appeal to all earnest international Socialists of this country to protest energetically against such monstrosities, and to hold meetings of protest.

A committee for the defence of Ferrer has been formed, and its secretary, G. H. B. Ward, of 390 Cricket Road, Sheffield, will be pleased to forward any resolutions of protest, which will be used to the best effect. Spaniards are most susceptible to English criticism and appreciation, so that by publication of these arbitrary acts in the English and foreign press, we can hope to arouse in them some sense of shame.

Senor Pi Arruago is entrusted with Ferrer's defence, and as the heroic defender of Dreyfus and Zola, he is ever ready to combat reaction on behalf of the 'League for the Defence of the Rights of Man,' a body which is composed of intellectuals as far apart in their ideals as Liberal and Anarchist.

It seems almost impossible that such a monstrous miscarriage of justice as the condemnation of Ferrer should occur, but, if it does, the days of the Spanish monarchy are numbered. The discontent of the people is profound, and the fire of their revenge is smouldering; it needs but a little spark to set it aflame.

PARTY MATTERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

These columns have been placed at the disposal of the Party Secretaries of Locals are requested to take advantage of them in, at intervals, reporting conditions in their respective localities.

PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Special meeting, Oct. 12th, 1906. Present, Comrades Kingsley (Organizer), Leah, Dales Pettipiece, Pritchard, Morgan and the secretary.

Minutes of the previous meeting read and approved. Communications and monthly reports read from locals Lossland, Fernie Revelstoke, Nanaimo, Vancouver and Bonnington Falls.

Comrade Pettipiece appointed a committee to get a pamphlet for propaganda purposes, and a warrant for \$10, authorized towards printing same.

The secretary reported his expenses as the committees representative at the Convention as follows

Warrant authorized for \$60.00 for the Organizer's salary for two days time lost on account of meetings at Rossland and Revelstoke.

Next meeting of the executive committee called for Oct. 30, when convention expenses will be dealt with and per capita struck.

PROVINCIAL ORGANIZING FUND

The following amounts received up to date: Previously Acknowledged \$120.00 Collection at Rossland 8.00 Collection at Revelstoke 5.00

CAMPAIGN FUND

It has been decided by the Provincial Executive to build up a central fund to be used in generally assisting in the coming campaign and more especially for the purpose of printing and distributing campaign literature.

All comrades wishing to collect for this fund should at once apply to the provincial secretary for a receipt book. No effort should be spared in building up this fund.

The following amounts received up to date: Previously acknowledged \$14.50 J. P. 50 Two Clarion subs 1.00

SOCIALIST PARTY CAMPAIGN FUND

Previously acknowledged \$16.00 C. B. Robelu 1.50 Peter Anderson 1.00 Soren Simonsen 1.00 Nels Hansen 1.00 Knud Hansen 1.00 Nels C. Nelsen 1.00

Total \$22.50 D. G. McKENZIE, Secretary.

One particularly noticeable feature of the recent convention of the B. C. Socialists at Nelson was the entire absence of any disposition to incorporate palliatives and immediate demands into the party program.

VANCOUVER LOCAL, NO. 1

Regular business meeting of October 15, 1906, Comrade Arnason in the chair.

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved. Statement of expense incurred by Comrade Kingsley while acting as delegate to the Convention at Nelson, was received.

The following warrants were ordered drawn: Literature Agent \$9.10 Rent, Sullivan Hall 3.50 Walter Thomas Mills 15.00

Comrade Dales was appointed chairman for Sunday evening, Oct. 21.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Collection, Oct. 14 \$7.05 Literature Sales 9.10 Dues 3.00

FREDERIC PERRY, Secretary.

THEY DON'T LIKE HIM.

For downright, dirty, petty larceny tactics the small business class can be depended upon to take the palm. In Bellingham they have hounded Comrade Cloak, councilman-at-large, incessantly since his election and have at last forced his employers to discharge him.

The above incident calls to mind that the only thing that in the least disturbs the employers of labor is to have the workers go into politics on their own hook. They can do anything else without causing even a ripple of excitement in the capitalist world.

WASHINGTON.

Tacoma, Wash., Oct. 15.—From far-off Garfield county comes cheering news, for the Socialists there have placed a full county ticket in the field, and the boys are out looking for big game.

Old Thurston county comes rushing to the front like a young athlete. Pacific county socialists have thrown their coats away, tossed their hats to one side and are preparing for a grand rush.

King county is in a clas by itself. It is humming. Whatcom and Spokane counties must be hatching a surprise, for we hear little from them, but we know from the nature of the Socialists in those counties that something is going to happen.

Yakima county has sounded a trumpet call, has asked for an assistant state organizer and the request has been granted.

Chehalis county is not sleeping, nor is Lewis, but nobody can tell what they are doing, but it is safe to assume

In the Domain of King Jamie

(Continued from Page One.)

ger is only credited with 16 cwt., that is the maximum weight, matterless whether the box, as it many a time does, contains a ton of coal. If the car be only level full, the utmost weight given is 14 cwt., so that on every box of coal that comes out of the mine the digger is robbed of two or more cwt. And he said, that Dunsmuir has no difficulty in hiring a man for three dollars a day to effect this wholesale robbery for him.

Then again, the company supplies all the explosives used by the men, dynamite at the rate of 20 cents and black powder at 16 cents a pound (company's measure). Reckon the digger's powder bill at ten dollars a month (it is more) and say 300 diggers (there are more) and you have a monthly truck business of 3,000 dollars.

Then there is the flagrant contravention of the Eight Hour Law. This measure caused a three months' strike in Nanaimo, or perhaps I should say was made the pretext for a strike under cover of which the astute Yankee company effected a very considerable saving in working expenses.

Finally there is the train question. By the famous Ladysmith edict, which involved the ruthless and wholesale eviction of a whole community, Extension miners must reside in the Dunsmuir city. The first result is that the miner has his working day stretched out from eight to ten hours.

This very week we have had an old phase of the question re-opened. Surmising that since the transfer of the E. and N. to the C. P. R., Dunsmuir's interest in Ladysmith would have ceased, the miners have been struggling back to Extension.

How long will it be before the masses, the toilers in the earth's dark places, the makers of other men's wealth and happiness at their own lives' cost and sacrifice, will arise in their might, burst their bonds asunder, and enter into their universal heritage.—ISLANDER.

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Local aspirants for political honors are setting up a howl against the influx of Hindus into the Province. The workingman may rest assured, however, that if a stop is put to the introduction of cheap Asiatic labor it is the working class alone that must do it.

Remember that your executive committees cannot push forward the work that ought to be done without the funds to do it with. Send in your spare cash to the Provincial and Dominion Secretaries.

Labor-Power as a Commodity

(Continued from Page One.)

rather than cheaper dwellings, with more wholesome, better, and more plentiful, rather than cheaper—and nastier food.

Seeing that the operation of the laws we have been considering is inexorable under, and inseparable from existing economic conditions, our efforts should be directed to changing these conditions rather than tinkering with their effects, to revolutionizing conditions which divert the means of production from their proper object—that of producing wealth—and which convert them into capital—means of exploitation.

Every workingman in Canada should see that his name is enrolled on the voters' list. Do it today.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that after 60 days we intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Land and Works for a special license to cut and carry away timber from the following described lands in Rupert District:

No. 1.—Commencing at the S. W. Cor. of Sec. 23, Township 14, thence east 80 chains, thence north 80 chains, thence west 80 chains, thence south 80 chains.

No. 2.—Commencing at the N. W. Cor. of Sec. 14, Township 14, thence east 80 chains, thence south 80 chains, thence west 80 chains, thence north 80 chains.

No. 3.—Commencing at the N. E. Cor. of Sec. 15, Township 14, thence west 80 chains, thence south 80 chains, thence east 80 chains, thence north 80 chains.

No. 4.—Commencing at the S. E. Cor. of Sec. 22, Township 14, thence north 160 chains, thence west 40 chains, thence south 160 chains, thence east 40 chains.

No. 5.—Commencing at the N. E. Cor. of Sec. 26, Township 14, thence west 80 chains, thence south 80 chains, thence east 80 chains, thence north 80 chains.

No. 6.—Commencing at the N. W. corner of Sec. 25, Township 14, thence east 80 chains, thence south 80 chains, thence west 80 chains, thence north 80 chains.

No. 7.—Commencing near the S. W. Cor. Sec. 36, Township 14, thence north 80 chains, thence east 80 chains, thence south 80 chains, thence west 80 chains.

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TO "CLARION" READERS.

Many complaints are reaching this office from subscribers who fail to get their papers. In some instances there are several complaints from the same locality. As every subscriber's name and the number of paper with which his subscription expires are kept continually in type and the mailing list printed therefrom each week, after all corrections, alterations and additions are made up to date, the frequency of these complaints justifies the suspicion that postal employees are often guilty of reprehensible laxity in the performance of their duties, even if they be guilty of nothing worse.

The publishers of the Western Clarion earnestly request any subscriber who does not receive his paper to promptly notify this office. Missing copies will be supplied at once and necessary steps taken to locate the reason for such non-delivery and to avoid its repetition in the future.

The publication of periodicals of every description is a specialty with the "Clarion." Telephone or write for estimates. Every facility for such work, and promptness and satisfaction guaranteed.

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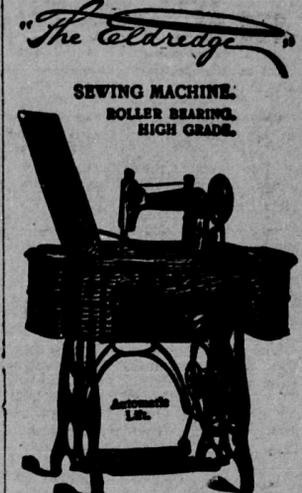
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# NEWS AND VIEWS

## AS GIVEN OR EXPRESSED BY SOCIALISTS THROUGHOUT THE DOMINION

Edited by R. P. PETTIPiece, to whom all correspondence for this department should be addressed.

A worker who has not yet registered on the voters' list should be the last man to find fault with his slavery.

If you don't believe old-party conventions are always open to the public make an effort to get into the next one without credentials.

The Calgary "Clarion" says the printers of the bunch-grass capital have presented a new wage schedule to take the place of the one now expiring.

A workingman without a vote has no more to do with who shall write the law than a lunatic. If you desire to get free from the asylum of capitalism, register at once.

If you don't like the laws as interpreted by capitalist courts, see that your name is on the voters' list; then elect men of your own class to make and enforce laws that will suit you.

"No union man is fit to hold a working card who will again go and poll his vote for one of the old parties," so declares the Alberta Clarion, official organ of the Calgary Trades and Labor Council.

The next time you hear a workman grumbling about the exactions of his boss and master, ask him if his name is on the voters' list. If not, assure him that he's getting less than is coming to him.

The convention call for the twenty-sixth annual session of the American Federation of Labor has been issued. The convention this year will be held at Minneapolis, Minn., beginning at 10 o'clock a.m., Monday, November 12.

To the class that writes the law belongs the power to interpret and enforce it. Only members of parliament write laws. If the working-class want laws to meet their needs they must elect men to write them. This necessitates having a vote. Are you on the voters' list?

As long as capital holds sway the workingman must remain a wage-earner, subject to the fluctuating conditions of the labor market. He can never attain to the dignity of manhood until the rule of capital is broken and Labor's freedom gained.

The August elections in Norway show a great increase in the Socialist vote. Seven Socialist candidates for the Storting have already been elected and it is likely that this number will be increased at the secondary elections now being held. The last Storting had only four Socialist members.

It may be true that the workers cannot legislate for themselves what their wages shall be; but they can name the hours which shall constitute a day's work.

The Eight Hour Day for miners in B. C. is an exemplification of this fact. But if the balance of the workers in Canada want an Eight Hour Day they will have to elect men who stand for it. Want to do this the workers who want such a law must be on the voters' list. Are you there, Mr. Workingman?

It is strange that men who work hard all their lives, whose clothing is of the poorest hand-me-downs or overalls, who live in a rented shack and eat the cheapest foods, can see others who never do any useful work strut around as if the earth belonged to them—I say it is more than strange that such poor men will raise their voices in protest when one tries to show them that there is a better method of doing things, and declare that the present is the best that can be and that all things are all right! There are no slaves so hopeless as those who do not know that they are slaves, for they will not lift a hand to free themselves.—Appeal to Reason.

### NOT THE SOCIAL REVOLUTION

Comrade Bohle of Havana, Cuba, concludes an interesting letter re the revolution in these words: "The poor beggars have just concluded a revolution, but are trying hard to understand why they have come to the conclusion that they fought for something which they don't own. Most of the deluded brood haven't enough wealth in this world and island to buy a 5-cent pair of socks let alone a chunk of eating."

### IN THE "LAND OF THE FREE."

By a recent referendum in California, H. C. Tuck, 528 Telegraph Ave., was re-elected State Secretary. From several localities reports have been received by the National Office, that candidates first nominated on the Socialist ticket were compelled to withdraw by order of their respective economic masters or seek other positions.

Receipts for dues at the U. S. National Office, during the month of September, exceed receipts from the same sources for any other month during the history of the organization. The amount was \$1,603.00 representing payment for 32,000 members.

### HEAR! HEAR!

Last Sunday's P. I. says editorially: "The citizen who does not register puts himself in the position, so far as the highest privilege of citizenship is concerned, of being a man who knows nothing and cares nothing about the nation. The unregistered voter is a man who should be ashamed to look his fellow man in the face. Men complain of the evils which grow out of bossism and the machine system of politics. They complain of the evils due to lack of control of the maleficent corporations. The man who fails to register and to vote contains within his own bosom the germs of the evils of which he complains. There is no excuse for him. Be sure to register and then do not forget to vote on election day." Sure! and let it be the Socialist Party ticket straight.

### LINING UP FOR ACTION.

At a special meeting of the Provincial Executive Committee of the Socialist Party, held on Friday evening last, to hear the report of the Nelson convention delegates, most encouraging letters were read from Rossland, Nanaimo, Greenwood, Slokan, Fernie and Vancouver.

The Vancouver delegates were enthusiastic over the convention proceedings, and the make-up of the delegates throughout the Province. "The finest and most representative convention ever held in the history of our movement," said Com. Hawthornthwaite, as he made a run for the Nanaimo boat on Friday Afternoon.

Socialist Party history has certainly been made, but the next chapter will be written on election day in this Province.

### SAME OLD CAPITALISM.

San Francisco can boast of the success of an "independent labor" party. A mass meeting was held there last week to select a "law and order" committee of 100.

Walter McArthur, one of the delegates from the Labor Council, made objection to the method of representation on the committee of one hundred. Regarding the action of the committee he said:

"Invited here to attend the mass meeting, we are told to get out of the hall and the doors are closed behind us. Certain citizens formulate a cut and dried program and we are told to swallow it. If this is to be a case of follow the leader, labor having the right to the largest representation will lead and all others may follow. It is the final judgment of organized labor that everything that shall be done be done within the law. Labor wants no vigilance committee of public safety."

### WHO ARE THE ANARCHISTS.

Five bishops in Spain, recently met at Burgos and sent a message to the government violently protesting against the "anti-Christian movement and announcing that they will not obey laws which violate the rights of the church.

### CONCEDES THREE NEW SEATS ALREADY.

The coming provincial campaign has scarcely begun; yet even at this date the Daily Province concedes victory to the Socialist Party at Greenwood, Fernie and Slokan. With these new seats already admitted, there should be plenty of room for further concessions between now and next October. The Socialist Party campaign opened the following morning after last election, three years ago. No other party has anything to live for between election days. At least if it has, it is of such a nature that it will not permit of much publicity.

An improved method of milking cows by electricity is being put into use, but the capitalists consider the present method of milking the working class above improvement.—New York Worker.

Party lines will be drawn in B. C. after next election. The Socialist Party and the anti-Socialist Party—capitalists.

### CLARION QUESTION BOX.

J. C., Victoria.—I. No; Mr. Sherman is not a member of the Socialist Party. He was expelled some months ago for running on an independent labor ticket at Lethbridge, Alberta. 2. We shall see what we shall see.

There hasn't been a moral spasm in Vancouver since Jim Hill's invasion of Dupont street.

### NAME THE HOUR AND PLACE.

Commissioners Dales and Johnson have been gazetted as commissioners for taking affidavits, thus authorizing them to place names upon the British Columbia voters' list. Workers who cannot get away from their slavery long enough to register at the Court House will be looked after if they leave their addresses with Secretary Perry, Socialist Party Headquarters, Room 10, Ingleside Block, 313 Cambie Street.

### A UNIQUE POLITICAL MEETING.

The Socialist Party as a Factor in the Local Political Arena—A New Method of Raising Campaign Funds—The Workers Discovering Where Their Interests Are Best Served.

What other political party in Vancouver than the Socialist could charge an admission fee and fill city hall to standing room only, as was done by the local Socialists last week? Not only did the Socialists pay their speaker's expenses, advertising accounts, etc., but over \$50 was placed to the credit of the local's campaign fund. It will require more than Kelly's quartette this time to draw a Liberal Party working-class audience and certainly nothing less than free hacks and a fife and drum band will ever attract workers into a Conservative meeting—more especially if it means ushering them into the ignominious presence of Billy Bowers.

### SIKH IMMIGRATION.

The Socialists of British Columbia object to the Sikhs and other non-assimilating races on purely racial grounds. They should remain in their own (?) country and settle their own problems in their own way.

On the contrary, the Sikh has as much right, theoretically, in John Bull's Canadian slave camps as John Bull's capitalists have in the Sikh domain.

It resolves itself into merely a question of force. The nation with the most effective death-dealing instruments and dampfools to operate them will determine what is "right."

If ever the workers of Canada hope to maintain their standard of living, or secure industrial freedom, they must become the power behind the gun—the State. Then the laws they write and the mandates they make will be right, because of the power to enforce underlying the demands.

The political expression of such a policy is the Socialist Party. Nuff sed.

### IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.

What have you got to do with politics, Mr. Workingman?

What does it matter to you whether you are ruled by a set of "men on the make," called Liberals, or another set of the same breed calling themselves Tories? You've got to work just as hard under one set as under the other. "Yes, work as hard and as long and for as little money, too. Look at a daily paper—any daily paper will do. Glance at the political news and opinions. Read the leading articles. Do they concern you? What are they about? Why, election scandals; electric power commissions; tariff commissions; bank reports.

Somebody makes a speech about the glorious future of our "great West."

Another fills column after column espousing the actions of some insurance company or other. And so they pile the agony on. But how does it all affect you, Mr. Workingman? Why, it doesn't affect you at all! It's none of your business. You haven't any right to criticize, either. If you had done your duty, these fellows wouldn't have any money, or land, or votes to juggle with. How's that, do you say? That's simple. You produced that money; you made that land valuable; you owned those votes. But, like a fool, you allowed these tricksters to get hold of them.

What did you get in return? Why, you got food and drink and clothes to wear. You didn't get too much of any of these things, either. Just enough to keep you going so that you will have to turn in and work again and produce more wealth and more values, so that you may be skinned again, and again, and again.

Yes, when you got only your food and drink and shelter out of the deal, that's just where you made your mistake. To be sure, you got wages. But all your wages went to buy these things. So it's the same, after all.

The wages you received were not paid you in proportion to what you produced, nor according to the value of your services, but you were paid according to the price of labor in the labor market. The price of labor in that market is determined by the competition between men looking for a job. When there are two jobs for every man, the price of labor goes up. When there are two men for every job, the price of labor goes down. Under present conditions, you see the labor market in an over-stocked condition. This allows a greater profit to be made. So that you see that between what you get and what you produce there is quite a margin, quite a surplus.

That's what the other fellow gets. That's what you read about in your paper every day. So long as you are content to go along as you are, you will continue to read about it. But when you make up your mind that this sort of thing must stop, it will stop.

That is when you make up your mind and give effect to it by voting the Socialist ticket. No, my friend, it's none of your business to kick up a dust about your wealth after you have allowed some

one to steal it from you. To be sure, the Liberal and Tory say: "Oh, yes, it is." But that's where they and I differ.

Your politics are close to home—at your work in the factory or the mine. If your politics don't touch your everyday work and life, then they are a sham. Work and wages are your principal concern and all that appertains thereto.

That's what you talk about to your fellows; that's what you think and worry about.

Now, to give a logical expression to all your thinking and worrying, vote Socialist at this next election. Get men of your own class in touch with the enemy in the house of legislation. Then you will be better able to see just where you are at among all this money juggling and labor skinning.

WM. DAVENPORT.

### TOO MUCH FOR HIS STOMACH.

John T. Mortimer Cannot Swallow the Labor Party Nonsense of the Winnipeg Voice.

To the Editor of the Voice:

If the political situation in Great Britain is satisfactory from a workers point of view, by all means let us follow the advice given in your last editorial to "close up your ranks," but beware, you who talk so much of unity, who deprecate the existence of the "impossibilist" Socialist, that you do not make the breach wider than ever before. There are at present in Great Britain a half-dozen parties all claiming to represent labor. The Labor Representation Committee, organized to achieve such a unity as you think desirable elected a motley bunch of representatives culled from those parties, and what on earth have they attempted—far less accomplished—in the interests of the working-class would take a microscopic eye to detect. Outside of parliament they appear to the working class as a fine lot of leaders, asking the workers to unite for the achievement of something that they themselves are unable to define or agree upon! Their press is so filled with crimination and recrimination, with jangling personalities, that there is little space or time to enlighten the worker as to the causes of his deplorable condition or remedies for it.

You want a Canadian Labor Party? Very well. There is one in existence now in the Socialist Party of Canada which in the legislative record of the men it elected, in the principles it professes, in the literature it disseminates, in the educational work it has accomplished amongst the workers, in the scope and character of its propaganda, far outshines the abortive efforts of the numerous labor parties that have hitherto been organized on the same lines as now proposed—throughout the Dominion. What have you got to say against it? Do not lie back in your chair and write the words "impossibilist" and "irreconcilable." Discuss the claims made above and show wherein this party is so unworthy of the confidence of the Canadian workers that another need be organized. I ought to know something of the history of the Canadian labor movement. I have been a member of some of those labor parties. Particularly do I know the make-up and record of this Labor Congress that has just given birth to this Labor Party, and I recognize the fine crafty handiwork of the men who have kept the organized labor movement as a tail to the Liberal kite for many moons, and who have fought every movement that sought to enlighten the workers as to what was wrong with the economic system they were suffering under. Those men are hungry for office and its emoluments. They are unwilling to travel the hard, weary and slow, though sure, road of first educating the working-class and then building up a movement grounded on intelligence. Thereupon they cater to the prejudices held by the workers. They are all things to all men. They vent their wrath on the Socialist alone, but are careful to avoid discussion of his principles save only when they can misrepresent with impunity. The logical representatives of such a party are Smith and Verville, elected as independent (?) labor men. Against them I place Hawthornthwaite and Williams, elected as uncompromising Socialists.

Dare you compare their records and then suggest that we should have a party of which Smith and Verville is the type rather than one which produces Hawthornthwaite and Williams. Your paper was filled recently about the doings of the gallant Labor party in the Imperial parliament whose time was occupied principally by religious bickering, but I notice you had little to say about labor legislation nearer home. Did you know that legislation, such as the eight-hour day for mines and smelters, workmen's compensation, adoption of safety appliances in industry, adult suffrage, reduction of election deposit, etc., etc., was introduced in the British Columbia legislature and some of it fought through? If you did, you were careful not to enlarge on it. Is it possible that you refrained from so doing because you would have to give credit to a movement too honest to sacrifice its principles for the sake of immediately electing some office-hungry politician and thereby leave no excuse for launching this new labor party? No two parties can exist side by side peacefully claiming to represent the same class in society, if war ensues, on whom does the onus rest?

Yours Truly,  
JOHN T. MORTIMER.  
St. Vincent, Minn., Oct. 7th, 1906.  
—Winnipeg Voice, Oct. 12.

Keep your eye on the political barometer. There is liable to be an election in British Columbia before the year closes. Do not be caught napping.

# PLATFORM

## Socialist Party of Canada

We, the Socialist Party of Canada, in convention assembled affirm our allegiance to and support of the principles and program of the international revolutionary working class.

Labor produces all wealth, and to labor it should justly belong. To the owners of the means of wealth production belongs the product of labor. The present economic system is based upon capitalist ownership of the means of wealth production; therefore all the products of labor belong to the capitalist class. The capitalist is master; the worker is slave.

So long as the Capitalists remain in possession of the reins of government all the powers of the state will be used to protect and defend their property rights in the means of wealth production and their control of the product of labor.

The capitalist system gives to the capitalist an ever swelling stream of profits, and to the worker an ever-increasing measure of misery and degradation.

The interest of the working class lies in the direction of setting itself free from capitalist exploitation by the abolition of the wage system. To accomplish this necessitates the transformation of capitalist property in the means of wealth production into collective or working-class property.

The irrepressible conflict of interests between the capitalist and the worker is rapidly culminating in a struggle for possession of the power of government—the capitalist to hold, the worker to secure it by political action. This is the class struggle.

Therefore, we call upon all workers to organize under the banner of the Socialist Party of Canada with the object of conquering the public powers for the purpose of setting up and enforcing the economic program of the working class, as follows: 1. The transformation as rapidly as possible, of capitalist property in the means of wealth production (natural resources, factories, mills, railroads, etc.) into the collective property of the working class.

2. Thorough and democratic organization and management of industry by the workers.

3. The establishment, as speedily as possible, of production for use instead of production for profit.

The Socialist Party, when in office shall always and everywhere until the present system is abolished, make the answer to this question its guiding rule of conduct. Will this legislation advance the interests of the working class and aid the workers in their struggle against capitalism? If it will, the Socialist Party is for it; if it will not, the Socialist Party is absolutely opposed to it.

In accordance with this principle the Socialist Party pledges itself to conduct all the public affairs placed in its hands in such a manner as to promote the interests of the working class alone.

### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF CANADA.

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, hereby apply for membership in ..... Local ..... Socialist Party of Canada.

I recognize the class struggle between the capitalist class and the working class to be a struggle for political supremacy, i.e., possession of the reins of government, and which necessitates the organization of the workers into a political party distinct from and opposed to all parties of the capitalist class.

If admitted to membership, I hereby agree to maintain or enter into no relations with any other political party, and pledge myself to support by voice, vote and all other legitimate means the ticket and the program of the Socialist Party of Canada only.

Applicant ..... Address .....  
Occupation ..... Age ..... Citizen .....  
Admitted to Local ..... 190.....  
..... Chairman ..... Rec. Sec'y .....

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